

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, FCPAA, 7/11/84

Present: Maddox, Sobus, Herman, Doss, Ziskind, Sumner, Marti, Venema,
Holloway, Dudley, Bernhardt, Bowen

Conveyed Absence: Bohn

Call to Order The July meeting of the Board of Directors, FCPAA was called to order by President Maddox at 8:25 p.m.

Minutes of Previous Meetings Marti moved to accept the minutes of the previous meetings as corrected. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report Doss indicated that he has been, and for the next month be doing the program for handling our funds. He now has approximately \$9,264 and \$1,000 received this evening, and still is expecting the majority of the add revenue. On June 20, 1984 he opened a Money Market Fund account at the National Bank of Washington with the \$18,205.93 received from former Treasurer Heger. Doss indicated that this account was a temporary measure pending a final decision of what procedures to follow with various deposits, etc. Doss further indicated that we have received \$85 for use of our risers from the United Jewish Appeal. The question was raised as to the legal costs incurred in our negotiations with Heger, and it was felt that the cost of this amounted to approximately \$250. Ziskind requested, and Craig Bowen indicated that he will prepare a letter voicing the Board's appreciation for the work Ron Bogard has done as our lawyer in handling the Heger matter. The Business Manager files containing some information we need are still in Hunnicutt's possession. Sobus raised the question of designating an individual with the responsibility for ordering and distributing supplies of our stationary. Sumner indicated that since January 1982, we have had a requirement on our books to have an audit. Maddox asked Doss to arrange for an audit of our books and to report on the arrangements he has made at the August Board meeting.

Report on the June 1984 Concert Sumner distributed a handout detailing the income and expenses involved with the June 1984 "Together at Last" concert (copy attached). Based on this report, the concert profit should be approximately \$3,000 dollars with an additional approximately \$7,500 program profit, for a combined profit of \$10,243. After all other expenses involved with the party and New York City trip were deducted, approximately \$7,287 in profits should remain. Sumner also indicated that the breakdown in ticket sales was quite interesting in that, for the first time, a higher percentage of tickets were sold through non-member sources - outlets, mail, and telephone, than were sold by members.

Rehearsal site search A report on this was deferred. There are several possibilities which are being pursued.

MCC rehearsal/office options Maddox indicated there was nothing further to report. Bowen indicated that a letter had been sent to them from us indicating that we were considering that site as a possibility to rent space at a cost nte \$400, and that MCC had gotten the funds to renovate the building. Bowen indicated that MCC most probably knows at this point that we won't rehearse there, and that the chances of our renting office space are not promising. Dudley urged that communication be forthcoming to ensure that there is no possible misunderstanding. Marti inquired as to what kind of office space we are seeking, and a brief discussion followed on the possibilities including renting a small apartment or office somewhere downtown.

Budget Bowen distributed a copy of a draft Annual Budget for FY'85 (copy attached). Bowen and Maddox reported on some of the assumptions made which were required in order to prepare a meaningful document. There was no in-depth discussion of the draft budget at the meeting.

Fundraising Sobus indicated that he had held a meeting and planned a tentative Fundraising Calendar for Aug '84 - June '86 (copy attached). The many events are anticipated to produce a gross income of approximately \$121,000 over the nearly two year period. Dudley urged that we show those people who have supported the Chorus through ads and other activities our appreciation by introducing ourselves and identifying ourselves as a member of the organization and indicating how grateful we were for their interest and support. This type of activity really helps in the fundraising effort.

GALA Maddox reported that the 1984 GALA Choruses Conference will be held in Denver, Colorado August 31 - September 3, 1984, and encourages individuals to go if possible. GALA has a nine members Board and 5 of the 9 are up for election at this time. The registration fee is \$30.

Committee Appointments Maddox submitted his list of Committee appointments. He has asked Rettenmaier to serve as Membership Chairman, Bohn as Production Manager, Marti as Business Manager, Bernhardt as Finance Chairman, Herman for Ticket Sales and Box Office, Ziskind as Community Liaison, Sobus as Fundraising Chairman, and Sumner for Public Relations. Maddox indicated that until a clarification of the need for, and functions of the General Administration Committee chair are made clearer, he is not recommending filling this slot. Herman moved the acceptance of the names as submitted by the President. Ziskind seconded and the motion carried.

ACDA Membership Maddox indicated that there have been some problems with acceptance of Gay groups in performances before meetings of the American Choral Directors Association. To provide for more inside support and better understanding, GALA has encouraged choruses to apply. GALA is a member of ACDA as is Trinkley. Ziskind moved that we joint ACDA. Holloway seconded and the motion was carried.

Salary Adjustments for Music Director and Accompanists Discussion of this topic has been deferred. Holloway will abstain from any discussion involving him directly.

Season Proposals and Options for 1984-85 This has been postponed until the retreat.

Potomac Fever Performance Opportunity Doss indicated that Potomac Fever has been invited to sing on August 19 at the Fundraiser of the Montgomery County Coalition on Human Rights. Doss spoke with Janus who says that this appearance would be okay, but recommended that GMCW not be put in print. On the invitation it could state "members of Potomac Fever." We will be receiving a small fee for doing this. It is not really a political event, but rather deals with a piece of legislation. Janus feels that the Board should make some policy on appearing before politically oriented organizations. Maddox indicated the group should use at this performance Potomac Fever of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C.

Anniversary Party No discussion was held. The party will be at the home of Powers/Guarino on Saturday, August 4, 1984.

Agenda for Management Retreat Coffee and danish will be served at 10:00 a.m. followed by general discussion among ourselves from 10 - 11.

Membership Committee Rettenmaier gave a report on membership activities. He indicated that not too much has been accomplished since last winter. He plans on tightening up the entire membership organization. Really use Section coordinators for personal contact. There has been a feeling that the "Good Time Girls" have been left out and he intends to reemphasize the social aspects of the Chorus. Boykin is very interested in working in this area. Rettenmaier also wants to broaden the base of members by going out into the community, especially the Black community well in advance of auditions and advertise the auditions widely. Maddox recommends ads through the Blade, BWMT, Black journals, etc, as well as through announcements on bulletin boards in bars, etc. These auditions are now scheduled for September 8-9 for new members, with old members reauditioning the last two weeks in August. Holloway queried as to whether we can try to hold auditions at a predominantly Black bar. Herman asked about the Membership Handbook. Sobus urged consideration of new member orientation including the "buddy" system.

Hot Flashes Sumner asked for any news to be included in the latest Hot Flashes to be issued soon.

Different Drummers Ziskind urged that someone talk to Jerry Walker of Different Drummers. He apparently feels slighted. Maddox indicated that instead of a Christmas Program, we would like to do something with them around Gay Pride Day. Bowen indicated that due to scheduling conflicts with Riverfest, Gay Pride Day probably will not be held the weekend before New York City as has been traditionally the case, and it may be the weekend after July 4.

Bet Mishpachah Ziskind indicated that he and Bowen went to a Friday evening service at Bet Mishpachah to discuss a possible contribution from them toward funding a Hanukkah piece. We will probably get some funding but not for the Hanukkah piece.

Committee Appointments Maddox led a round of applause for all Committee appointments.

Next Board Meeting The next Board meeting will be held on August 15, 1984 at Bernhardt's. at 8:00 p.m.

Adjournment Marti moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded and carried.